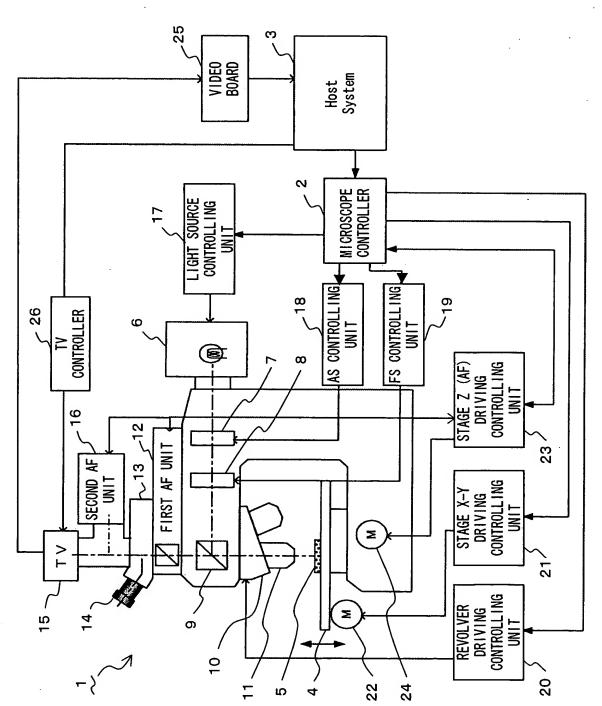
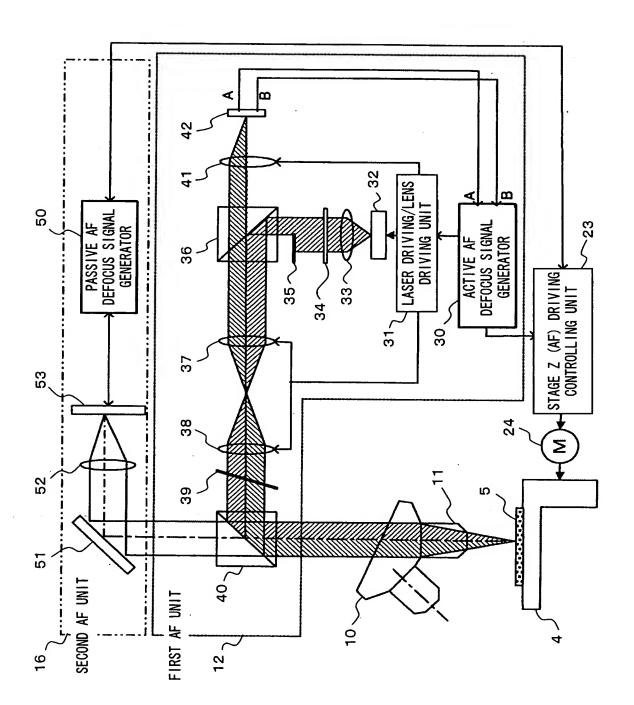
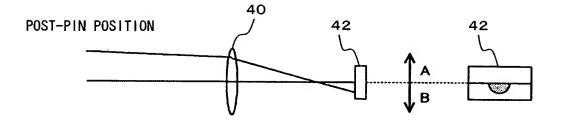


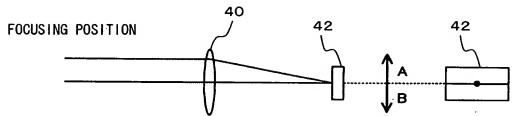
F 1 G. 1



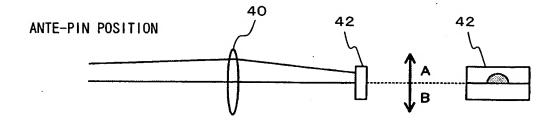




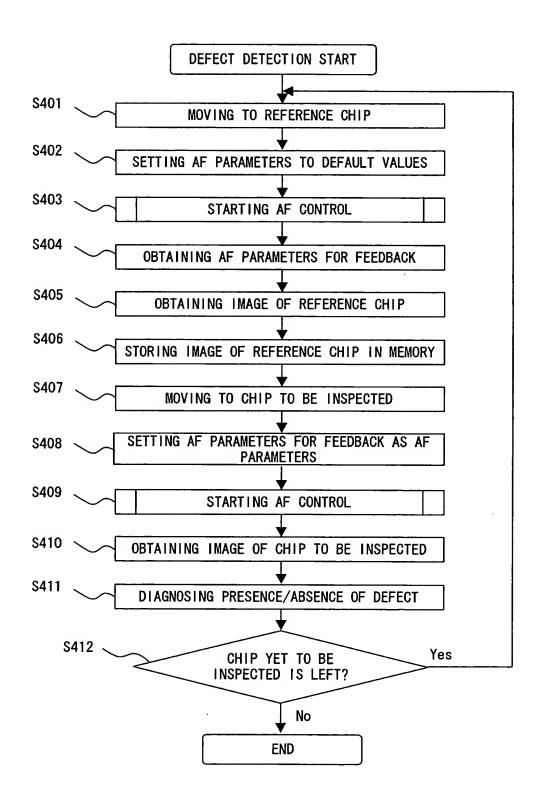
F I G. 3 A



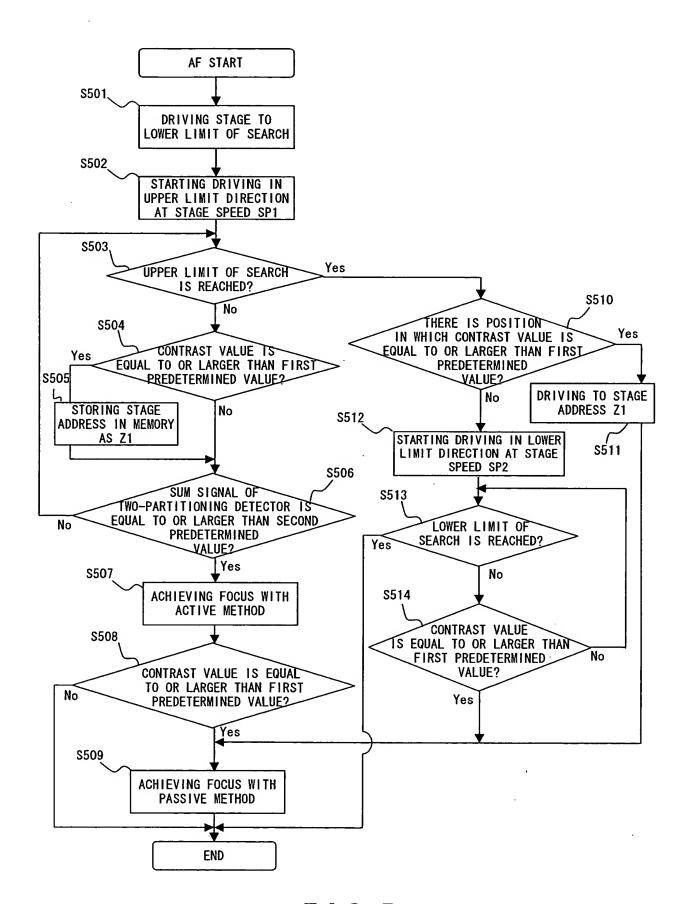
F I G. 3 B



F I G. 3 C



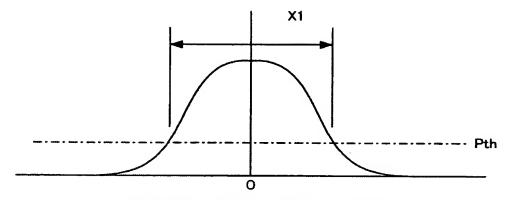
F I G. 4



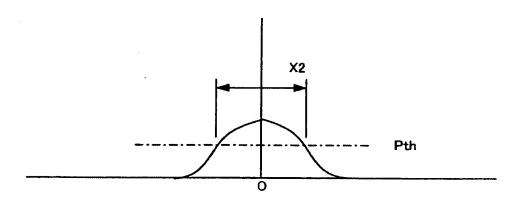
F I G. 5

	PARAMETER	CONTENTS	EFFECT
1	ACTIVE AF STAGE SPEED	STAGE SPEED WHEN SAMPLE IS SEARCHED WITH ACTIVE AF	IMPROVES FOCUSING SPEED
2	SEARCH RANGE	SEARCH RANGE OF SAMPLE IN Z DIRECTION OF STAGE	IMPROVES FOCUSING SPEED
3	SAMPLE SEARCH AF METHOD	AF METHOD WHEN SAMPLE IS SEARCHED	IMPROVES FOCUSING SPEED
4	PASSIVE AF STAGE SPEED	STAGE SPEED WHEN SAMPLE IS SEARCHED WITH PASSIVE AF	IMPROVES FOCUSING SPEED
5	ACTIVE AF OFFSET AMOUNT	AF OFFSET AMOUNT AT TIME OF ACTIVE AF	IMPROVES FOCUSING ACCURACY
6	PASSIVE AF CONTRAST THRESHOLD VALUE	CONTRAST THRESHOLD VALUE WITH WHICH PRESENCE/ABSENCE OF CONTRAST IS DETECTED	IMPROVES FOCUSING ACCURACY

FIG.6



WHEN REFLECTANCE OF SAMPLE IS HIGH $F\ I\ G\ .\ 7\ A$



when reflectance of sample is low $F\ I\ G\ .\ 7\ B$

